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plasmolysis / platform

1034

and no definite size, esp. the vegetative stage of a myxomycete 2 any of a genus (*Plasmodium*) of unicellular sporozoans found in red blood corpuscles, including the parasites that cause malaria.

plas-mo-ly-sis (plaz mō'li sis) *n.* [ModL: see PLASMO- & -LYSIS] Biol. a shrinking of the protoplasm of a living cell due to loss of water by osmosis

plas-mo-lyze (plaz mō'li z) *vt., vi., -lyzed', -lyz'ing* to subject to or undergo plasmolysis

Plas-sey (plā'sē) village in West Bengal, India, north of Calcutta: scene of a decisive victory (1757) by which the British established their rule in India

-plast (plast) [*< Gr plastos, formed < plassein, to form: see PLASTIC*] combining form a unit of protoplasm [chromoplast]

plas-ter (plas'tər, plās'-) *n.* [ME *< OE plaster < OFr plastre, both < LL plastrum, for L emplastrum < Gr emplastron, plaster < emplastēin, to daub over < en, on, in + plassein, to form: see PLASTIC*] 1 a pasty mixture, as of lime or gypsum, sand, and water, which hardens on drying, for coating walls, ceilings, and partitions 2 PLASTER OF PARIS 3 a pasty preparation spread on cloth and applied to the body, used medicinally as a curative or counterirritant — *vt.* 1 to cover, smear, overlay, etc. with or as with plaster 2 to apply or affix like a plaster [to plaster posters on walls] 3 to make lie smooth and flat 4 to apply plaster of Paris as a treatment 5 [Colloq.] to affect or strike with force — **plas'ter'ry** *n.* — **plas'ter'ry** *adj.*

plas-ter-board (plā'stər bōrd) *n.* thin board consisting of a core of plaster of Paris covered with heavy paper, used in wide sheets as a base or substitute for plaster in walls, partitions, etc.

plaster cast 1 a copy or mold of a statue or other object, cast in plaster of Paris 2 Surgery a rigid cast to hold a fractured bone in place and prevent movement, made by wrapping the limb or part with a bandage of gauze soaked in wet plaster of Paris

plas-tered (plas'tərd) *adj.* [pp. of PLASTER: orig. military slang] [Slang] intoxicated; drunk

plas-ter-ing (plas'tər in) *n.* 1 the act or process of applying plaster 2 a coating of plaster as on a wall

plaster of Paris [from use of gypsum from Montmartre in Paris in its manufacture] a heavy white powder, calcined gypsum, which, when mixed with water, forms a thick paste that sets quickly: used for casts, moldings, statuary, etc.

plas-ter-work (plas'tər wərk) *n.* a finish or decorative work done by plastering

plas-tic (plas'tik) *adj.* [L *plasticus < Gr plastikos < plassein, to form, prob. < IE base *plā-, flat, to smooth out > PLAIN*] 1 molding or shaping matter; formative 2 a) capable of being molded or shaped b) made of a plastic 3 in a flexible or changing state; impressionable 4 dealing with molding or modeling, as in sculpture 5 a) characterized by or exhibiting superficiality or a lack of originality; dehumanized; mass-produced [the plastic world of television advertising] b) hypocritically false or synthetic; phony [a plastic smile] 6 [Colloq.] of or designating a credit card or credit cards; or credit based on their use [plastic money] 7 Biol. capable of readily changing or adapting in form, physiology, or behavior 8 Med. a) of or helpful in the renewal of destroyed or injured tissue b) that can be so renewed 9 Physics. capable of continuous and permanent change of shape in any direction without breaking apart — *n.* 1 any of various nonmetallic compounds, synthetically produced, usually from organic compounds by polymerization, which can be molded into various forms and hardened, or formed into pliable sheets or films, fibers, flexible or hard foams, etc. for commercial use 2 something made of plastic 3 [Colloq.] a credit card or credit cards, or credit based on their use — *SYN.* plastic — **plas'tic'ly** *adv.* — **plas'tic'ity** (-tis'ə-tē) *n.*

-plas-tic (plas'tik) [*< Gr plastikos: see prec.*] combining form forming adjectives 1 forming, developing [homoplastic] 2 of or relating to (a given noun ending in -PLASM, -PLAST, or -PLASTY) [rhinoplastic]

plastic arts 1 arts producing works or effects that are three-dimensional, as sculpture or ceramics 2 arts producing works to be viewed, as sculpture, architecture, painting, and the graphic arts; as distinguished from those involving writing or composing, as music or literature

plastic bomb a puttylike substance containing explosives, that will adhere to walls, etc. and is detonated by fuse or electricity

Plas-ti-cine (plas'ti sēn) [PLASTIC + -INE] trademark for an oil-base modeling paste, used as a substitute for clay or wax. Also: **plas'ti-cene** (-sēn)

plas-ti-cize (plas'ti siz) *vt., vi., -cized', -ciz'ing* to make or become plastic — **plas'ti-ci-za'tion** *n.*

plas-ti-cizer (-siz'ər) *n.* any of various liquid or solid organic substances added to plastics, paints, etc. to modify viscosity, flexibility, or strength

plastic memory the tendency of certain plastics, after being deformed to resume their original form when heated

plastic surgery surgery dealing with the repair or restoration of injured, deformed, or destroyed parts of the body, esp. by transferring tissue, as skin or bone, from other parts or from another individual — **plastic surgeon**

plas-tid (plas'tid) *n.* [Ger *plastiden* (pl.) *< Gr plastides, pl. of plastis, fem. of plastēs, molder < plassein, to form: see PLASTIC*] any of several specialized protoplasmic structures occurring in the cytoplasm of some plant cells, in which starch, oil, protein, pigment, etc. are stored

plas-tique (plās tēk') *n.* [Fr.] 1 PLASTIC BOMB 2 the technique or action of making very slow movements in dancing or pantomime, like a statue in motion

plas-ti-sol (plas'ti sāl', -sōl') *n.* [PLASTIC + -SOL] a liquid dispersion

consisting of very small particles of resin in a plasticizer heated, the mass first gels and then fuses to become a thermoplastic used as a coating, for molding, etc.

plas-to-gene (plas'tō jēn') *n.* [*< Gr plastos, formed (see -PLASTIC) + E-gene, -GEN*] a separate genetic particle associated with, and enhancing the activity of, the plastids

plas-tron (plas'trən, -trān') *n.* [Fr. *< It piastrone < piastra: see PISTON*] 1 a metal breastplate worn under a coat of mail 2 a protective armor worn over the chest by fencers 3 a trimming like a die worn on the front of a woman's dress 4 a starched shirt-front 5 lower, ventral part of the shell of a turtle or tortoise

-plasty (plas'tē) [*< Gr -plastia < plastos, formed < plassein, to form: see PLASTIC*] combining form plastic surgery involving a (specific) part of the body, source of tissue, or purpose [rhinoplasty; gastropasty; neoplasty]

-plasty (plā'sē, plas'tē) combining form -PLASIA

plat' (plat) *vt.* **plat'ed, plat'ing** [ME *platten, var. of playen < PLATT*] [Dial.] to plait or braid — *n.* [Dial.] a plait or braid

plat' (plat) *n.* [var. of PLOT, infl. by ME, flat *< OFr: see PLATE*] 1 a small piece of ground 2 a map or plan, esp. of a piece of land divided into building lots — *vt.* **plat'ed, plat'ing** to make a map or plan

plat- (plat) combining form PLATY-

plat abbrev. 1 plateau 2 Mil. platoon

Platja (plā'tā), Río de la (rē'dē lā) estuary of the Paraná & Uruguay rivers, between Argentina & Uruguay: c. 200 mi. (321 km); name River Plate

Plataea (plā'tē-ə) ancient city in Boeotia, EC Greece: site of a battle (479 B.C.) in which the Greeks defeated the Persians: also **Plataea** (-ē)

platan or **plat-ane** (plat'n) *n.* PLANE

plat du jour (plā dū zhōr') *pl. plats du jour* (plā-) [Fr. dish of the day] the featured dish of the day in a restaurant

plate (plat) *n.* [OFr. flat object *< fem. of plat, flat < VL: plattus < Gr platus, broad, flat: see PLATY-*] 1 a smooth, flat, relatively thin piece of metal or other material 2 a sheet of metal made by hot rolling, or casting 3 a) any of the thin sheets of metal, plastic, etc. used in one kind of armor (plate armor) b) such armor 4 a) a flat piece of metal on which an engraving is, or is to be, cut b) an impression taken from the engraved metal 5 a print of a woodcut lithograph, etc., esp. when used in a book 6 a full-page book illustration of any kind, printed on paper of a stock different from that of the text 7 a) dishes, utensils, etc. of silver or gold, collectively b) metal dishes, utensils, etc., or any metallic ware, plated with silver 8 a shallow dish, usually circular, from which food is eaten

PLATEFUL 10 the food in a dish: a course [a fruit plate], 11 food service for an individual at a meal [dinner at twenty dollars a plate], 12 a dish or other container passed in churches, etc. for donations of money 13 a) a prize, orig. a gold or silver cup, given to the winner of a race or contest b) a contest, esp. a horse race, for such prizes rather than for stakes (also called plate race) 14 PERI DENTIS

thin cut of beef from the forequarter; just below the short ribs 15 BEEF, illus. 16 Anat. Zool. a thin layer, plate, or scale, as of bone or horny tissue; lamina; scute 17 Archit. a horizontal wooden girder that supports the trusses or rafters of a roof 18 Baseball short home plate 19 Dentistry a) that part of an artificial denture that fits to the mouth and holds the teeth b) [often pl.] loosely, a full set of false teeth 20 Elec. ANODE (senses 1 & 2) 21 **Platyl** is impression surface from which a sheet of postage stamps is printed

22 Photog. a sheet of glass, metal, etc., coated with a film sensitive to light, upon which the image is formed 23 Printing: a) cast or printed from, made from a mold of set type or from a negative prepared as by photocomposition — *vt.* **plat'ed, plat'ing** to lay or coat with gold, silver, tin, etc. by a mechanical, chemical, or electrical process 2 to cover, as with metal plates for protection 3 to make a printing plate of

plateau (plā'tō) *n., pl. -teaus' or -teaux' (-tōz')* [Fr. *< OFr. plateau, dim. < plat: see prec.*] 1 an elevated tract of more or less level land; tableland; mesa 2 a period, level, etc. of relative stability, or relatively little change, as can be shown by a flat extent on a graph 3 specifically, a period in which an individual's learning rate does not improve — *vt.* to become relatively stable or constant, as in posture

plate block **Platyl** a block of postage stamps with a serial number (plate number) in the margin

plated (plat'id) *adj.* 1 covered or protected with plates, as a surface 2 knitted of two kinds of yarn, one forming the face and the other the back 3 overlaid or coated with a metal, esp. a precious one, by a plating process [silver-plated]

plate-ful (plat'fool) *n., pl. -fuls* as much as a plate will hold

plate glass ground and polished, clear glass in thick sheets used for shop windows, mirrors, etc.

plate-let (plat'lit) *n.* [PLATE + -LET] 1 any of certain round or nonnucleated disks, smaller than a red blood cell and containing hemoglobin, found in the blood of mammals and associated with the process of blood clotting 2 THROMBOCYTE (sense 1) 1917-30

platen (plat'n) *n.* [ME *platene < OFr platine, flat plate; see PLATE*] 1 a flat metal plate, as that in a printing press, which presses the paper against the inked type 2 in a typewriter, the roller against which the keys strike

plater (plat'ər) *n.* 1 a person or thing that plates 2 [see PLATE] 13b) an inferior race horse

plate rail a shelflike molding along the upper part of a wall of a room for holding ornamental plates, etc.

plate tectonics *Geol.* the theory that the earth's surface consists of plates, or large crustal slabs, whose constant motion explains continental drift, mountain building, etc.

plat-form (plat'fōrm) *n.* [Fr. *plate-forme, lit., flat-form: see PLATE*] 1 a raised horizontal surface of wood, stone, or metal

2 a raised stage or flooring beside a raised floor or stage for performance of principles and policies, esp. designating a thick sole of cork, leather, or shoe with such a sole

platform bed a bed consisting of a mattress, often with the space below enclosed

platform rocker a rocking chair that has a platform base

platform scale(s) a weighing machine whatever is to be weighed

platform tennis PADDLE TENNIS

Plath (plath), Sylvia 1932-63; U.S. poet

plating (plat'ing) *n.* 1 the act or process of plating 2 an external layer of metal plating

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